

**ATHLETE AGENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Lambeau Field Executive Board Room 3rd Floor
1265 Lombardi Ave., Green Bay WI 54307
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2004**

PRESENT: Samuel Recht Atty., Atty., Jason Wied Atty., David Melnick Atty.,
and Tim Valentyn, Atty.

EXCUSED: Garin Veris, Robb Arent, Martin Greenberg

STAFF PRESENT: Jerry Lowrie, Bureau Director, William Black, Legal Counsel,
Secretary Donsia Strong Hill, Jan Bobholz, Credentialing
Supervisor, Kim Prine, Credentialing Staff and Pat Schenck,
Program Assistant

GUEST: Gary Karner, WIAC

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Donsia Strong Hill, Secretary, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Four members
were present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Samuel Recht moved, seconded by David Melnick, to approve the
agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (AUGUST 4, 2004)

MOTION: David Melnick moved, seconded by Tim Valentyn, to approve the
minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF COMMITTEE ROSTER

Noted.

**REVIEW OF 2003 WISCONSIN ACT 150
AND PROPOSED EMERGENCY RULES**

Mr. Black stated that the federal legislation was approved by a voice vote in the Senate
and is now on the President's desk. Wisconsin is on track with the Federal legislation.
Congress desires that the Uniform Act be passed at the state level in all the various states.

Mr. Black reviewed the modifications to proposed Chapters RL 150-154 Athlete Agents. The modifications were as follows:

- 151.02(8) newly created, to require the listing of “runners” used by an athlete agent (Taken from NFL language). *The Committee suggested changing the first sentence “All persons employed etc” to “All persons who for any consideration paid by the applicant either directly or indirectly, solicits, recruits or recommends student athletes on the applicant’s behalf.*
- 151.04(2) made a change to what it means to be “substantially similar”.
- 153.04 – “National Letter of Intent” was modified to replace “intends to enroll” under definitions.
- 153.09(2)(a) - expanded “initiate contact”, with the “runners” classification in 151.02(8) to place credential holders on notice that “initiate contact” means using “runners”.
- 153.10 – added the duty to report convictions to the standards of practice. May add this to the duty to report other adverse administrative actions by other jurisdictions or sanctioning bodies. Applicants will be requested to list all convictions on the application for an original certificate of registration.

Other changes included a general clean up for consistency of language and an expanded section analysis added. Educational institution did not need to be further defined given that the student athlete will be enrolled somewhere and that will satisfy the definition. The only additional information on the application was “runners” information and added the ongoing duty to report crimes.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the definition of the “National Letter of Intent (NLI).” The Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA) administers the National Letter of Intent program. This program includes more than 50 leagues with over 500 participating institutions. The letter serves as a certification that the student intends to enroll at a specific institution during the coming fall academic term. This agreement was subject to the prospective student qualifying for admission to the institution of his/her choice and meeting the NCAA requirements for receipt of financial aid.

Over the years, some of the terms of the NLI agreement have changed, yet the program’s basic goals have remained the same:

- To reduce and limit recruiting pressure on student-athletes; and
- To promote and preserve the amateur nature of collegiate athletics.

The NLI has many advantages to both prospective student athletes and participating educational institutions. When a student signs a NLI, they agree to attend for one academic year the institution listed on the NLI in exchange for that institution awarding athletics financial aid for one academic year. The NLI does not guarantee the student playing time or a spot on the team, but will provide the student athletics financial aid for the academic year. Students fulfill the NLI by attending the institution they signed for one academic year or by graduating from a junior college if they signed a NLI while in high school or during their first year at the junior college. Completing a playing season

does not fulfill the NLI, the student must complete the academic year in residence. The student does not have to sign a NLI each year. While under NCAA rules students must be notified annually whether their athletics aid has been renewed. Students sign an NLI when they first enroll in a four-year institution or if they are a four-two-four transfer student. Once a student signs a NLI, all other participating conferences and institutions are obligated to cease recruiting the student. Students have an obligation to notify any recruiter from a NLI institution that they have signed a NLI.

Students are not required to sign a NLI but many student-athletes sign a NLI because they want to create certainty in the recruiting process. The student is given an award including athletics aid for the upcoming academic year provided they are admitted to the institution and are eligible for athletics aid under NCAA rules, and signing a NLI will end the recruiting process.

The Committee reviewed and discussed questions and answers for students regarding the NLI. Information regarding registration for athlete agents will be posted to the Department's web site by October 1, 2004.

The initial credential fee is undecided at this time.

MOTION: David Melnick moved, seconded by Samuel Recht, to approve the RL 150-154 draft rules as amended.. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER COMMITTEE BUSINESS SCHEDULING FOR FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee will meet again in November. Mr. Lowrie will contact the Committee members with a possible meeting date when all members will be available to attend. The dates that members will not be available are November 8, 18, & 19. Possible meeting dates for November are 1, 2, 3, 5, 12, 15, 16, 11, 12, 19, or 30th.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: David Melnick moved, seconded by Jason Wied, adjourn the meeting at 11:46 am. Motion carried unanimously.